



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JAN - 3 2013

Mr. Ethan D. Irwin
12 Green Lane
Levittown, NY 11756

Dear Mr. Irwin:

The Public Petition dated October 23, 2012, for Superfund Designation to the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Navy for the Bethpage Grumman/Navy Site in Bethpage, New York has been forwarded to me for reply. The petition, which you signed in conjunction with other citizens, requests that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conduct an environmental assessment of the site, which EPA recognizes as the Northrop Grumman Corporation (Grumman) site. The petition requests EPA to investigate and delineate the extent of contamination of soils, waters and air from this site and include the site on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL).

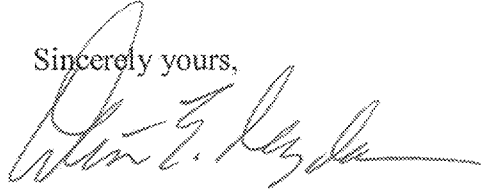
The site consists of the former Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant Site and the former Grumman Aerospace site. Activities conducted at these sites included engineering, administrative, research and development, and testing operations, as well as manufacturing operations for the Navy and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. As you may be aware, the Grumman site is permitted under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) because it managed hazardous wastes and operated as a storage facility under the RCRA definition.

Currently, an extensive remedial investigation and corrective action are being managed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) with federal oversight under the RCRA Subtitle C authority. It is EPA's policy to defer facilities that may be eligible for inclusion on the NPL to the RCRA program if they are subject to corrective action authority. Attached please find a copy of the *Federal Register* notice describing EPA's authority to address such sites.

Based on the above, the EPA does not believe an assessment pursuant to a National Priorities List designation is warranted for this site. The EPA is committed to a cleanup that is conducted in the most efficient and timely manner with input from the affected communities. The EPA will continue to work with the NYSDEC, Navy, Grumman, impacted water suppliers and the public to formulate a strategy that sets priorities, thoroughly evaluates viable alternatives and leads to a comprehensive solution that protects public health and the environment at the site.

If you have any further questions concerning remedial activities at the site, please contact Carol Stein, Remedial Project Manager at (212) 637-4181. Questions concerning Superfund designation should be directed to Mel Hauptman, Chief of the Pre-Remedial Section at (212) 637-4338.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walter E. Mugdan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Walter E. Mugdan, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division

Attachment

cc: Robert Schick, NYSDEC
Richard Mach, Jr., USN